

ag cat 63
u81p/cmc 393

Drei Konige
Drei-Alhren
bei Colmar

31.8. 1905

Dearest,

Here we are in a lovely spot in the heart of the Vosges Mountains and at the top of a pinewood. There are a lot of children in the house with their parents and you would make hay! I think everyone nearly is French. B.P. will be interested to hear that we have come here on a pilgrimage! That behind the hotel is a church which is the bourne of many pilgrims because why? in fourteen hundred and something a pious smith had a vision which ended in the building of the church and in many miracles and votive offerings. We were puzzled to know what Drei Aehren meant but it appears that the Virgin Mary carried three ears of corn in one hand as a sign of the good things that should happen to the good and pious people and an icicle in the other to show how the wicked should melt away and leave no sign. It was doubtful yesterday whether this person's pump would like the height but I think it is going to be good.

I am delighted with the little winged creature B.P. sends. I never saw anything so suggestive of wings as the whole attitude and motion and what a wonderful photograph. You tell me no news but I hope no news is good news. I am very glad to have Mrs. Devonshire's letters; my own thoughts, and I am sure yours have been going in the same direction. The whole thing turns on how far we feel obliged to make "instruction" in schools our

business. If the powers that be come to our aid in that matter, we may just go on in our own happy way carrying forth our own work under our own name; but if it remains with us to reach teachers, I am afraid it will have to be at the cost of such sacrifices as Mrs. Devonshire points out. Of course, we are all willing to lose ourselves for the general good but I have been feeling very sorrowful at the thought of losing our old P.N.E.U. name and changing our organisation.

At any rate, nothing can be done at present and my reason for writing so soon - so prematurely indeed - was the thought that Mrs. Devonshire might do something towards International cooperation on new lines; but I am delighted that she is translating your paper. That did so well for us in Germany that we may hope the best elsewhere.

Why not Miss Allen for Mr. Morant if the school scheme has fallen through. Mrs. Lamb is coveting Miss Parish but I shall soon now be able to tell you who is at liberty and shall be satisfied of course with what you arrange. I wonder does he want a resident or daily governess? And still, why not Miss Lees? She has a scientific turn which would be especially useful. I am sorry for those two poor girls; we must let them know of the next place on the look out for a school. I believe it will be better for them to start as the others have done.

How delightful of Mr. Morant to write such a nice letter to Miss Smeeton. She is doing good work for our cause,

is she not? How little we know what is going on in the world.
It appears that 30,000 pilgrims come here annually to be cured
of their ailments and distresses. It is another Lourdes; but they
come at Easter time so we shall not see them.

I am ever so vexed to have disturbed dear Lady A.
with a bomb when (if that interview I hope for goes well) we may
have to make no change at all. But a rival society is a danger.
It would occupy our ground without doing our work; say your prayers
about it all, please.

Dear love,

Ever yours,

C.M.(K.K.)

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u82plcmc 393

Hotel Porta Nigra

20.9. 1905.

Dearest,

You must come here for your very next holiday - short holiday that is - and M and S. would find a world of interest and stimulating ideas. I have never seen or wished to see Rome. There is so much of it that one would be overwhelmed. But to think that half a dozen at least of the later emperors walked familiarly about the streets here - to see the remains of their palace, baths amphitheatre, court of justice, Church of Constantine - brings the Roman past before you in a way you can grasp. We are immediately opposite and quite close to the majestic and impressive Porta Nigra. I cannot describe what it is to see the city life moving beyond and through the two great arches. It gives the sense of continuity and of solidarity more than anything I ever came across.

This is an extremely nice hotel and to a person who had not to be carried upstairs an economical one. There was a big wedding here yesterday of an officer. 100 guests - high festival went on from 11 in the morning till after midnight. Also we have had a very interesting personage in the house, the Queen mother of Italy - Margherite the widow of King Humbert. She too, was historical, a great quiet good face. Our hostess said she spoke French and German beautifully and most likely other languages. I have had your announcement from Cowell. Two readings from House of Education is very plucky!

I have rather wearied for a line from you, dear.

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tho' really there is nothing you need say. Kit Kit is very happy in this new experience. We find we can easily do the home journey in a day, so shall stay here over Sunday and come through on Monday 25th. You shall have a p.c. of time.

Mrs. Epps writes of a great wish to see me, so I have suggested the morning of the 26th. Is that right?

I am afraid I can hardly expect Miss Gray to look me up again? Much as I should like to see her,

Dear Love,

Ever yours,

C.M.

Grand Hotel Herzog Ernst
Friedrichroda den 1909

Was ever anything quite so delightful as to get your charming long letter, my Dearest, written with your own hand! I am just full of thanksgiving and gladness and so is the dear Kit-Kit. Yes, but there is a drawback to every joy. Envy is, etc. and how can I endure the thought of the real brass bedstead! Of course at moments I realise what a joy it is to you - a sort of apex of luxury (and you know, you are always devoted to luxury'!!!) but then comes the pang - My royal progresses pale miserably! No, I see you can't say anything about coming to us at present but do give me a word of hope when you get to Scotland. I cannot face the thought of missing the delightful little impromptu visits the beloved Person has paid us this many years. As it is, it is a long long time since we had you. Don't I recollect the joy of meeting you at Windermere and bringing you home in triumph the very last time?

The pleasure I am promising myself is to come to luncheon with you and spend a long day - to return on the 22nd - when you do, so as to come to you the next day. Please do not suggest our staying or I will return earlier and you will find the bird flown!

Kit-Kit will write the rest (here we stop a minute to listen to the cowbells). Such a lovely sight, over a hundred, quite beautiful cattle, rather like Guernsey and every third or fourth with a great Alpine cow-bell, winding up a red sandstone road to the heights (Thuringenwald). The bell bearers wear lovely broad green collars with (royal) arms. We think they probably belong to the Duke of

Saxe Cobury Gathe, on whose park we look out. Isn't he our Prince Arthur?

I have been wondering greatly about Birmingham, whether you would be fit, dearest, but I read the lovely cook story as your promise to yourself that you would be ready for the Conference and what would it be without you. (Kit-Kit has been making ~~Heweril~~ in the interval!)

(continued in Miss Kitching's writing).

Of course I want you to represent me but I would not like you to have a minute's anxiety about it and dear Lady Campbell's reading will be far ~~way~~ too good for the paper. How happy the children will be to get you. I think your presence will make up for all sorts of picnics and joys. Dear Cyril, I think I knew that he was going to Bedales but had forgotten the fact and other matters, for indeed, you have monopolised our thoughts in the most greedy way!

How interesting that Miss Browning should have been Lady Campbell's old schoolmistress. I remember meeting her in prehistoric times. I fancy Mrs. Wynne asked me to meet her and we had talk and I liked her greatly but I can't recollect how or where it came to pass. You should like "the great O.B." for he is an admirer of yours. Do you remember when we had him, I think at London House, and you spoke the confided flattering things to me?

Well now I must tell you how we got here - really to find woods and pastures new. We were delighted to be let off sooner than we expected by two baths. I think Dr. Schott was really pleased and

/whbn¹¹¹₂₂₂

I said to him that I was really grateful, he said, "You have reason to be very grateful," so you see he was pleased with his performance and on Saturday we came here the day before you went to Scotland. Quite a pretty little incident occurred on the way. We stopped to lunch at the Frankfurt station and later had succeeded in occupying every inch of a 1st class compartment when a lady endeavoured to get in. We felt that she was presuming! and treated her accordingly and she behaved with great meekness, apologised with real concern for having caused me to move out of the middle of the compartment and plied us with various little attentions. She found that we had little to say, either in French, German, or English but hearing us speak to each other in the last language, she continued to say things in that. A certain simplicity and air she had showed her to be a great lady, too much of a responsibility for any advances on our part. By and by, we condescended to ask about the lovely country we were passing through - the upper valley of the Main about which she knew all there was to be known. Presently she told us that we were coming to an 11th century town, one of the oldest in Germany, Schuhausen - "I will show you the ruins of the castle, Count Witgenstein bought a beautiful old house there very cheap. He wanted a house in the neighbourhood but did not know that this was beautiful with painted ceilings and carved work. I have not seen it but my daughter has been over." Then we were told

/that.....

Frederick Barbarossa spent 3 or 4 months every year in
~~Seln~~^{Seln}hausen hunting in the forest and that the ruins we saw
were those of his castle. He used to stop at our castle too
where there are inscriptions about. I tried to look as if I
were not curious and did not wonder who I was talking to but I
know you will say that I did make some sort of unspoken enquiry
for the lady produced her card in a very gracious way and
received my highly interesting "Mrs Mason" with a pretty little
show of interest. She turned out to be Furstin Jsenburg und
Budinggen Wachtensbach, so I made haste to say, "Highness". Then
I had to be disturbed again, to her great regret to let her out
and let her servants in and then she said, "Oh, there's my
husband," so we saw the Prince (only a German Prince, be it
noted) and saw a very pretty little bit of German life. For,
if you please, only the servants came to the compartment and he
remained standing at some door in the station, a brown looking
hunting^{or} man in a green jager costume and this very charming
lady of about 60 ran up to him and embraced him in the prettiest
way. Now is not that quite a little story? It has made that bit
of the Main valley most interesting to us and has imprinted a
very beautiful bit of country on our minds.

Yes, madam, I did. The ghost of the H.O.S. prompting me, I
sent her our last Report with a little explanatory note which said
that of course no acknowledgement was necessary and she appears
to agree so most likely our precious Report has gone into the

/waste.....

den 1909

paper basket. So the story is complete and is not a first chapter. This is a charming little quaint and simple German town among the hills about 1500 feet high and our hotel is beautifully clean and well ordered with a lift and a bath chair and things. Yes, I really do mean to stop sometime so good bye. We shall long for the p.c. about your journey. Never did you do anything so virtuous and praiseworthy as this getting well,

Dearest love in which Kit-Kit joins,

Ever yours C.M.

Please give our love to the family and to Miss Webb.

? 1909

No, I do not like to win at the making of saints
 Such personages are good for the world, I admit, but to be
 in at the making causes you to cry and that makes your eyes
 smart so on purely, kindly, nobly selfish principles, I don't
 like it so there now. I ^{grieve} agree about the pain, darling. I wonder
 is it the excruciating pain caused by the circulation finding
 new channels. It is dear of you to give even a passing mention
 of it, you see, we believe in prayer and it is well to know and not
 dreadfully to surmise.

Tell BpP. I love her but could ~~not~~ blaspheme her
 ever so for not letting me have a post card about the journey
 at once. Surmising is anxious work; that is the way of the
 world. Of course I forget her very great goodness in writing
 during the dreadful time. You little wretch to go and construe
 my innocent desire for a tray in your sitting room along with
 the sofa (which thing I love) into a luncheon party. Pray let
 me know if you are going to secure beautiful English earls and
 admirable English kings and things for that luncheon party in
 order that I may secure a meal of sorts at the Charing Cross
 hotel and come to you at about 3.30 when in decency the folk
 must be gone. But seriously, Dearest, I must have you all to
 myself except B.P. for a little while. I love the idea of your
 new friend and agree with you that she has been sent for your need
 Your charming friendships have always delighted me, and made me
 thankful for you. This particular friend, for example,
 is of no good for everyday uses, and joys, and has always

delighted in B.P. therefore. May I congratulate Lady A. on her admirable taste in friends. Of course that is a backhanded compliment to the writer. Poor beautiful "Earl" I have written to him offering him Miss Parsons for Easter V.P. says constantly of her "she will be a great comfort to somebody and I think she would not object to the nursery life. She is not of course one of our most brilliant, but she is very intelligent and very right minded and good with little boys. Of course I should like to give him the very best we have ever had but you understand the difficulties. Lady A. certainly had a quite royal progress: to read about her splendours brings on that tiresome ^{smarting} ~~something~~ of the eyes - envy, I suppose. I am interested about the finger work. I wish I had got some Munich Stickerei of which the shops in Nauheim were full. The post cards are not good here but I am sending two or three and also advertisement of Thuringia pottery we are going today to see if I can pick up something for the dear friend and shall send it to Scotland if I can manage it for her to play with.

Love from Kit and me to the whole family, and especially to B.P. and Madge and to Miss Henderson. What a good time she is having; and our deepest love, especially mine to the Beloved Person,

Ever yours

C.M.

The Flying Horse Shoe,

Clapham April 7th, 1911.

My dearest,

I wonder will you have your Birthday at home, and will they make you a flowery bower. I rather hope that will be so as I can picture there. God be with you darling at the end of what seems to me a wondrous year for you and triumph of spirit over matter, and at the unfolding of a year, fuller than ever of interests and, I venture to think, of hope.

Here we are on these bleak moors in this bitter, bitter cold. I had had a sweet little plan of driving here myself, sleeping on the way at Kirby Lonsdale, but neither the weather nor I was fit, so we let Barrow drive down and came meekly by train, and here he is with very limited prospects of driving anywhere. However, he assisted at various house things this morning.

I suppose you too are having extraordinarily cold weather - 20 degrees below the average for the beginning of April. I expect great things of the ninth.

Miss Cruse comes today for a day or two. She has outdone herself in a time of much business and many undertakings. I told you, did I not, that poor, old Mr. Clonddale was ill and the Dr. said she had better give
/up.....

her house, so we rushed in and took it from her. She is to have a sale of her goods and chattels on the 10th and we are sending in a small army of workmen to paint, paper, whitewash, plumb - and do all there is to be done. Miss Cruse and I have long daily sessions about furnishing choosing patterns, etc - the whole thing is a little matter for the furnishing is of the simplest, but it has meant quite a lot of consideration.

How noble of Mrs. Watts' and what a possession the badges will be as her gift! I long to see them. I am sorry we may not do the menu cards with a different lake flower or something of the country on each - but ~~it~~ was a stupid suggestion - Of course the Lyceum cards must be used.

Mr. Grant seemed to think that Miss Taylor was not quite the person. Miss Morris is now available and Mr. Bull wrote with enormous appreciation of her - if she would take a school, I wonder would she do?

We are reading "The Winter Queen" Elizabeth of Bohemia - gives much insight into the history of the period as well as into the personages. Elizabeth is a wonderful piece of portraiture. Of course we are full of the Students' Conference. I wonder how many are coming. They seem to like the idea of Mr. Earle's lecture. The puppet

/show....

has dropped through because Dorothea is to be in Constantinople with her father at the time. I am rather sorry as I think it might have offered useful suggestions to people who have solitary children.

I wonder will you have time to write me a screed - tell me what you have been doing lately and how you are - especially the latter. Also, who are at home for your birthday - what is everybody doing and going to do, and is Mudge enjoying the respite?

I am sending you a little pink ~~teashloth~~. Don't be aghast. It is for your Terrace Teas - strictly for out of London wear. Some daffodils will reach you to wear or

Fanny has gone to Normandy to walk (for the most part) with her brother. I shall be glad to hear of her safe arrival.

Yes I do feel with you that Mr. Grant's School will be a huge acquisition - but his letters do not do him justice. Of course I recognise that his is a Public School just what we want.

Kit-Kit sends you much love and Birthday Greetings - to which Miss Cruse adds hers.

Dear love,
ever yours, C.M.

i86plome393

Ambleside,

May 16th, 1911.

Isn't the beloved Lady A coming to us to be rested?
Yes, I am having a tiresome attack of spinal neuralgia -
an old friend, but I am nice and sociable and mention it. Please
take example!

Of course Sir

kind words are too personal to be published - I wrote you,
"don't": didn't I? How amusing is the "China Shepherdess"
theory ! And !!

T Thank you for sending all the things straight
to Cowell. About my paper, by all means print it as a pamphlet
a good deal if it has been said before, however - but I wanted
to bring it under the idea of a "Reason" - If and if and if -
I have a notion that I shall write a paper on each point of the
Synopsis - but don't hurry me, Lady A! Don't say with an air
as if you were talking to a refractory Tweenie, "Write so and so".

I suppose previous publication as a pamphlet
would not interfere with a final book?

I enclose a sort of circular which I have
got Mr. Lock to send out to the Head Mistresses. I hope it may
help to get in the right sort of people.

About my paper, you really must not mind if I
cut it down or divide it. We talked the matter over before
I know - and you convinced me (a very easy thing to do) and I
didn't take the trouble to tell you of my grounds and

2/P

reasons for doing otherwise but these are strong and binding and reasserted themselves - as Thus:- A Magazine or Review must not develop into a pamphlet, but must consist of a certain number of articles, no one greatly exceeding the rest in length. Now, P.R. has a distinguished literary character to maintain. It is unique in all languages and all times, as an educational magazine of a literary character not professional or technical. Therefore, we must play the game and not edit in an amateurish way. When both you and I are gone the P.R. will be long quoted and made much of in the annals of education. Now, Ma'am, don't make me explain again.

Of course, Dearest, I trusted you to edit in this case - you are so large and liberal that I felt quite safe.

How very tiresome about Miss Brookes!
I don't think she is keen so was not surprised and we haven't a suitable person free. Indeed hardly anyone at all. How has the portrait turned out? I am anxious to know about it - about all and how are you.

Ever Yours,

C.M.

i87cmc 393

? 1911

At the foot of Windermere
Swan Hotel,

My dearest,

How grieved I am, I thought you were not well when you were with us, though you are always so bright at Scale How that people thought you looking well. Behold the explanation of the iron pills. I am not so sure about the month's rest, with all the family there and dear Miss Parish to talk Conference. Now do shunt people and take what rest you can. I hope mild weather is coming for you to live out of doors. Thank you for the "Nation" which I am going to read and return. You did not send me Geoffrey's paper which would interest me much. Yes, it is very pretty and pleasant here and Kit Kit and I get things done. Also we read - are just now reading Paracelsus life Very interesting but I think too sympathetic with the odd and mystical side. Yes, Miss Smith would be a great loss, but I must with you congratulate the little Pentlands. We are losing Miss Stephens too, did I tell you? And did I tell you that nice and good Miss Maufe who came to see that little half Dutch girl, whom you will remember, with a view to adopting her, but I am putting it wrongly - she saw the child's mother on the way down and go the legal form signed so that little Helen was adopted de facto before she had been seen. Was not that splendid courage; all because she knew children so well and loved them so well that she had no doubts and no fears. She carried the little maiden off and thought her delightful. Isn't it a pretty story? I can't gossip with you any more because the days are very full. I want to write a long letter

Ambleside,

February 17th, 1915.

My dearest,

I like Mr. Mattuck's papers very much indeed and simply love the passage I have marked, it is a pure delight. You know it always gives me joy to see eye to eye with my "Chela" and I inveigh against women's ways of thinking it's just because I think it matters so much because and because I believe I shall add one day, "M.P." to a familiar address!

Like you, I am a woman lover, also, in my small way, a worker for women.

We have influenza in the house - have the sanatorium going and a nurse though not more than 3 or 4 rather mild cases a

So you come to us on the 5th and I shall sing if I'm in good voice ! "Oh how delightful 'tis to see". Miss Parish sends me a sketch of the plan for the Conference. I think I am going to be delighted with the scheme - though it includes the beloved children. But then, how you all kept them in the Holy Peace at Winchester! The rest and the rest and the rest I must say when you come,

Ever your loving,

C.M.

Ambleside,

2nd February, 1917

My Dearest,

Warmest congratulations on the fair promise for all your labours - the country will have reason to hope that some dreadful evils may be arrested!

What grand things our dear Secretary is doing! Three Counties (nearly) being converted! and new branches and a popular P.R. (not a bit better than it has always been) and P.U.S. keeping up - No, Madam, I don't think we are "in a bad way" and I do think the elementary school work is waking us all up to recognise that there is "something in it."

You will see the day when we have a Branch in every neighbourhood able to be useful to all the schools in the neighbourhood.

Miss Parish's effort and this C Meeting (Miss Amble's paper) and your Kensington school have all told. Dr. Kimmins is to go to D before Easter and I gather that if the method "justifies all that is claimed for it", why then London will come in with a rush! It's all breathlessly great.

About the Conference papers - of course I should be immensely glad of them - only we must NOT let it be supposed that we pay for any papers. Once /that.....

idea ~~gets~~^{gets} afloat, I should not be able to get a line without pennies and all the beautiful papers we get now would fail us. Of course its all right to get lectures^{es} and pay and secure their papers - but that's different. I do hope, Dearest, that if you are thinking of paying for papers you will give the idea up, supposing you are only begging for them, how would "Literature and Life" do for a general subject - with quite a number of sub-divisions?

I long to hear what Miss Parish says about Madge.

I have had rather a bad time but am mending
When are you coming to see us?

Ever your loving,

C.N.

Hotel Afan
Llanganmarch, S. Wales.

August 20th, 1917(?)

My Dearest,

At last I am able to write and tell you that I am mending splendidly though it was over five weeks before I began to do so and it seemed as if the baths were a failure notwithstanding Sir Lander Brunton and even I. Schott!

At last they are doing admirably well. I am anxious for some news of you and a screed about the Glenalla doings. Kit Kit is at the moment setting up sweet peas (sent by Barrow) in various Bovril pots and making us pretty. Out of the window is a heavenly view of a village here is called Beulah and really, seen from this it is a land of Beulah. (By the way, where does the land of Beulah occur?)

But I am really writing about the school in answer to yours of July 10th.

Kit Kit will be in London early in October. I'm afraid it must be early as she goes especially to meet her brothers who sail sometime in October, also the school work-programmes and examinations papers sets in very seriously with November and we are all up to our eyes in work: she especially so.

I think very highly of Miss Gardner and her

work. She has done much for P.U.S. and I venture to think much for her own school. You will understand what it means when I say that the spiritual atmosphere of the P.U.S. is rather a thing by itself. I hardly know how it comes about, but I am very anxious to safeguard it and believing that we are allowed in the Afterwards to go on helping with work we care for, I have a mystical notion that if we can keep that atmosphere while I am here it will go on always. Now, by several signs and by what you have said, I am sure Miss Gardiner's school is absolutely of us - a real achievement which very few of our schools have managed, but I am afraid she is not satisfied to have done beautiful work.

What do you mean I wonder by a "Real P.U.S. examination"? I think the London University would examine on our books once a year, but the result would not admit to the Universities because each of the old universities has an examination of its own and the Board of Education definitely puts such examinations for admission.

i 9/cmc 393

Ambleside,

Thursday....1917

My dearest,

I hoped to be able to say we had fine weather at last but it has rained all day. Never mind. The dear coming Guest accepts all circumstances as cheerfully as if (please be flattered!) she were a Tommy Atkins.

The War is straining people's nerves, isn't it? Three housemaids gave notice this morning - however, they are quite good and may be merciful to us and relent.

Kit-Kit will meet you at the usual train,

Much love,

C.M.

Ambleside,

12.5.1919

Dearest,

Thank you for telling me about Miss Merrier's address. I believe they do get capital women as heads of the Training Colleges.

As you know, I have nebulous "continuation" plans and am glad to hear of hers. No, of course those minus certificates do not count. The reason I am putting in a little Matriculation course is in order that girls who have been brought up in the P.U.S. may have the recognised qualification for entering Girton, etc. I dislike it very much but think it better they should spend a couple of terms on such work here than several years elsewhere.

Of two evils, }-----

Two P.U.S. girls have joined.

I am sorry, dear, that you have been unhappy about Mr. and his committee. I have written congratulations and a very brief outline of our work.

I do not think it advisable that any of us should be on this or other outside committee but I have told him that Miss Parish was ready to give the Committee information and evidence. You know as well as I do that no reform can be carried through without opposition and the heads of big schools do not like us because we do what they cannot quite accomplish - and also because, I think, it is getting about (not through us) /that...

the Board of Education is friendly and appreciative.

But do not be concerned - our success is phenomenal, but we must work directly through school authorities and teachers, not through other reforming committees.

Much dear love,

How goes the little artist,

C.M.

Have you read A Pagan? It smites me for a matriculation class! There is much in it though it is much exaggerated. It is good of you to keep your eyes open to what is going on.

C.M.

The Lake Hotel,
Llangammarch Wells.

19.7. 1920

Dearest,

I got the enclosed from Mr. Household this morning and sent the original to Mrs. Peacy but of course if you have got someone else we need not concern ourselves about her.

Miss Parish seems to be enormously touched and fortified by the big "testimonial" and it was so pretty of my Lady A. to keep out of it as if she had nothing whatever to do with it!

Here we are and baths have begun and every one thinks me so much better than I was last year.

Please don't forget to tell me when you go to Norway and also Mrs. Busse's address

I hope Miss de Putron is getting on quite admirably, but I am sure she is.

I love Norway,

From yours

dear love and from Kit-Kit,

Yours,

C.M.

Ambleside,
6th May, 1922.

Thank you, Dearest, for your loving congratulations.
It was indeed very 'happy-making' to see all those dear people and to hear from them one by one of the good work they are doing and all so simply and happily and with such great love for the children. I felt it a great uplift of heart to know that we are supported in our P.N.E.U. work by such a band of thoughtful earnest women.

I had hoped to stir them up to great zeal in propaganda work and have succeeded, I think, in many cases, but Miss Pennethorne's desire for "lovely lessons" which I hope are becoming things of the past, rather ~~could~~ ^{cooled} our enthusiasms. Of course each one of her numerous strictures was true, but then there were many equally true remarks which she did not make and these had the effect of making us greatly pleased with both the children and the students and full of hope for the good cause.

However her criticisms were useful as shewing that it is as well to point out to people what they should look for, so I shall take a few minutes to do that. For the rest, Dear I think you may leave the matter of the lessons in my hands. You know we believe in self-education and it is not every teacher who can withhold himself and give the children scope.

/What,

What is exercising us is that we shall I fear want a duplicate programme and our biggest room holds only 150. However, I think we can arrange for duplicated lectures, etc. in another room - the same people at different times. Miss Parish is working out a scheme and will let you have it with this before you go to Holland. May your work there prosper.

Yes, I think your title for Miss P. an improvement; no doubt she will dwell on propaganda and the beautiful work she is doing in the schools; but I do think it well that people should hear about us as a great, wonderful whole.

What a really beautiful ballad Michael has written in his little Magazine. The rhythm and feeling of it are equally delightful.

By the way, the dear boy wrote me the sweetest letters of thanks for my congratulations. His life is very fully endowed, but I am heartily glad of Oxford for him.

Your ever loving,

C.M.

Ambleside,

July 6th, 1922.

Dear Mrs. Franklin,

Please thank the Executive Committee for me for their kind message.

The Conference gave us too extreme pleasure, not the least part of which was due to the presence of so many members of the Committee and the delightful sympathy they shewed. May I make special mention of our Hon. Org. Secretary whose genial and happy remarks as Chairman did much to give the right tone to a Conference which will I hope do something towards spreading our principles.

Thank you too for the cheque for Miss Devonshire. I shall assume your kind permission to offer it as your gift towards some little comfort for her own sitting-room. She has come among us during the lean years and has not fared at all as well as she deserves.

The Committee no doubt know that severe economy (with some importunity!) is the lot of most colleges and schools.

I hope soon to be able to do better for the dear children, even at the risk of leaving this property to the P.N.E.U with a mortgage not fully cleared.

I shall tell Miss Devonshire of the Committee's wish and to show that the children gave them pleasure and she will no doubt include a pleasing pot - say - for each /room.....

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as the Committee's gift.

The crockery, etc. is of course my business and I hope to do better shortly, though crockery is a vanishing quantity in these houses!

With renewed thanks,

Affectionately yours,

C.M.MASON.

H.F.

dressing gown Mrs. F. had made her

Rigg's Hotel
Windermere.

What a most beautiful thing, said Mrs. Firth, when I came in in the course of dressing, arrayed in my garment of delight. (The Firths spent Christmas withus here - their going is a great grief I don't know what we shall do without them. Florence is wondering if she couldn't have little cooking classes in connection with P.N.E.U.

To return to our muttons - that is, my lovely new possession. I huntedout your stitiches of course - andrecognised the dear B.P.'s design and your good Annie's making and enjoyed the comfort of love in it all. My only fear is you will ask me to address a meeting in it as you never saw me look so nice before. We are very comfortable here and in constant communication with the House, but I hope we shall get back early next week. The back room Mr. Yates used to have for a studio is being floored and altered for a workroom. Miss Brown's room goes to enlarge the dining room and I am getting Mrs. Firth's tin room put up in our garden. She wants to sell it. This doesn't sound much but it means a great upset. I am glad you have a plst card from Lesejn. I have been anxious about Cyril. How nice to think of you and Madge at Spout Farm. I suppose you will run up and down. I am very nearly myself again. You don't say how you are dearest

Love, adn repeated thanks for the
beautiful chinese embroidery and the lovely colours and the
It is full of you,

can't write more. As for the K.A.S. - scores of masters may be dismissed, but the School is a leopard, the spots were shewn at that Conference four years ago, wherefore I steadfastly refused to be on their Council, etc., etc.

I am too dead tired to write another word but volumes are in my heart for you.

I have already written to B.P. asking if her exquisitely delightful paper - absolutely P.N.E.U. - may not be made a pamphlet. I shall write to Ottee. when I get her answer but I had meant to commit the matter.

I think the
is a valuable lesson to us in helping us to distinguish
between things that differ,

With dear, dear love,

C.M.

House of Education,

Saturday.

Dearest,

I feel that I am bheaving badly to Lady A. in letting her have this last paper at the last moment, but work has been going heavily with us for the last months, chiefly because the illness of our examiner has thrown the papers much behindhand.

Anyway, this quite stale paper will require no reading to speak of. It seemed necessary to go over old ground, a tedious process. You will see that the plan is to illustrate what is said on each subject by a couple of answers from the children. These come to you turned down and numbered, and my idea is that you should have someone by you who could instantly hand you each paper as you want it. After you have read the answer the set of papers might be passed round. The hitch lies in the fact that I did not keep back papers enough to illustrate each subject and so have had occasionally to take two answers out of one set of papers. When this is the case I think the papers might be passed back to your understudy who would hand you the next answer at the right moment. In this way, people will get to know something of the work even should the piles of papers never be glanced at. They would stand for convict anyway. It is something even to have seen all the papers done by every child in a very big school.

I hope all this does not bother you. Your organisatj

being the frame work.

Mrs. Berrykart came and stayed for two nights and spent the day here. I was not well and could only see her for a little time at tea, which was a pity as it was Thursday. I can't think of the other matters I have been storing - oh yes,

Corrections. Many thanks, for ~~your~~ ~~those~~ you have sent - a most useful help. Those for Parents and Children came too late, but most of them I think, I had made - not Spencer, though I am sorry to say. Those re "Home Education" I am glad of - "faculties" - yes, it is tiresome not to use the word in its conversational sense as one did 20 years ago.

We have had Mr. Perez who desired to be put up at our hotel, but then practically lived with us. I think things have gone well. He repeated three times a remark that interested me, "I noticed that all the students who "taught before me look strong - not merely healthy, but strong." I suggested good air, good food and good exercise - but the dear man had a theory: it was, he thought brains, mental vigour that made them strong and he told me that theory had been aired at the British Association last year - Science Group - when there were some splendid men on the platform. I don't know that the students are particularly strong and I doubt if the theory works all round - but there is something in it, is there not?

Here is Susan with my bath, so this screed

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must come to an end. I sent a marked catalogue of Cassel
pictures for Sydney with my love,

Bon voyage to you all,

WYours with dearest love,

C.M.

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Hotel Konig von Breussen

My dearest,

Just a line to tell you how well all goes and how dearly I look forward to seeing you in London and how glad I was of your dear letter. Give Mrs. Glover my love, I think it is very good of her to let you come up for the day. You do not tell me about her two little boys.

Little Sec will have to see her eye doctor at 10 in the morning, so will be quite available in the afternoon. I wonder would Girlie like to show her the S. Kensington Museum. I have often thought I would like her and Sydney as Cicerone there. I find all the persons between 18 months and two years very interesting and have things to tell you of two or three. I will not speak of the things in your letter, till we meet, except that I am very glad about Miss Bradley. There is a delightful market going on in the Platz before our window all sorts of pretty vegetable and frocks and pretty simple life. We had an hour or two at Gottengen yesterday, waiting for a train; Do you know it? A beautiful and delightful old town with whole streets of picturesque old houses, decorated as we don't know how to do it.

Dear dear love to my Ketta,

C.M.

Yes, dear, I know what a "Natur kind" thought art
and how to rub your cheek against a likened trunk will
be all the joy you want for the moment, but I think it would
be too good to have you here in the silence, a too full cup;
so let us take what is.

Do you think I am going to write you a letter?
Not a bit of it. When the day after tomorrow or so, I get
you face to face; besides, am I not making "your book" -
merciless task mistress! One word more, what do you
mean by ruining me in methylated (is that how to spell it)
spirits? Pints and pints pints and pints at 1½ a pint!
I shall bring an action against you. Can you guess what
particular action I should like it to be at this moment?
Give it up? - Dull person!

Ever thy,

C.M.

Two pages
is a page

Two pages - retype

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Of course we shall have to support such lectures by someone
(Mr. S? Miss Parish?) able to give working details, but
whoever speaks must be clear on our fundamental principle -
that the method acts immediately on children of
My Dearest,

any social class and of any age however they may have
Your little visit remains as a very pleasant
been taught before. The unconditioned character of our
memory which has left me with various thoughts (my pen has
education - free as the air for the breathing of all - is
given out - may I use pencil?) For example, increasing and
one of its finest points.

very warm appreciation of the MS you read me. The

I have been a little injured by the weather
denouement seems to me extraordinarily good, for any but an
since you left because it has been glorious and of course
experienced author, much of the dialogue is brilliant and
I say, "if only" but I should not have had Lady A. poking
the whole tale coheres.

among the beech leaves with such good effect in fine

I should like to offer a psychological hint
weather.

to the author:- there is no better way of "advancing" any

I shall try to hear about the 6th,
fashion or virtue or ~~evil~~ than by persuading people that

everybody does it.
Dearest love,

from yours,

The question is not one of fact but of the
influence of fashion, and in her case, I should be inclined
to insist less on the universality of certain practices.

And we have had Miss Parish rather a wreck when
she came but I hope she went away a little refreshed. I think
we had all her nerves beforehand in her capital letters.

I am writing letters (by degrees) to the people
whose names we decided upon, and we shall have to find lectures
for those who come - if any do. So perhaps we had better
hold back any lectures we have in view until the New Year.
/Of.....

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Lady Visitor

December 12

...I have been correcting our prospectus, and had half a desire to beg you to be Visitor, but two whole desires not ~~zzzzzz~~ to do so, because I would not for the world let your visits have even a nominal official character - they are too personal and dear for that. So were Mrs. Dallas Yorke's, but the title was a survival. You know we began with a whole long list of Lords and Ladies as Vice Presidents etc quite the old fashioned thing wh. the dear late L.V. (Lady Visitor) got for me, and when I crossed them out one fine day I left hers in because she knew it is not really official ...

The Stewarts at the Winchester Pageant were to be dressed as nuns. The Pageant was arranged by Mr. Mrs. and Miss Clement Parsons.

Miss Parish to tell her anything I can think of about our motto. But really there seems little to tell and I have no doubt that she has by this time thought out something much better for herself.

I believe I have at last got over my obsession on the score of pretty nuns. Yes, Mam, your arguments and Mrs. C.P.'s were very telling and conclusive; but the final victory is due to the fact that I perceived it was rather an obsession and I have long ago discovered that when I am "Obsessed" by any fear that fear turns out to be groundless. Now I hope that morsel of practical philosophy may help you in some heavy moment.

Kit Kit's much love and mine,

Ever yours.